

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUBMISSION OF)
ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY, INC., TO)
IMPLEMENT THE WATER CONSERVATION) PSC DOCKET NO. 04-137
RATE STRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS OF 26)
DEL. C. § 1406 (FILED MARCH 31, 2004))

ORDER NO. 6396

This 20th day of April, 2004, the Commission determines and Orders the following.

1. On March 31, 2004, Artesian Water Company, Inc. ("Artesian"), filed a letter, pursuant to 26 Del. C. § 1406(c) (2003 Supp.), reporting that it was continuing (without change) its present inclining block rate as its "water conservation rate structure" without amendments. See 26 Del. C. § 1406(b) (2003 Supp.).

2. The Commission is currently examining Artesian's overall rates, including its rate structure, in PSC Dckt. No. 04-42. The Commission believes that it is appropriate, and more efficient, to review Artesian's "water conservation" inclining block rate structure (as seemingly called for by 26 Del. C. § 1406(d)) in PSC Dckt. No. 04-42.

Now, therefore, **IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That further proceedings in this docket are held in abeyance.
2. That review and approval (as set forth in 26 Del. C. § 1406(c)-(d) (2003 Supp.) of Artesian Water Company, Inc.'s "water conservation" rate structure (as set forth in its letter of March 31, 2004) shall be undertaken as part of the proceedings held in PSC Dckt. No. 04-42.

3. That the Commission reserves the jurisdiction and authority to enter such further Orders in this matter as may be deemed necessary or proper.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/ Arnetta McRae

Chair

Vice Chair

/s/ Joann T. Conaway
Commissioner

/s/ Donald J. Puglisi
Commissioner

/s/ Jaymes B. Lester
Commissioner

ATTEST:

/s/ Karen J. Nickerson
Secretary